Revision of Ban on Milk Products

2438. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the private milk producing associations have requested Government to revise the ban on milk products promulgated by Government ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that delicensing of milk producing units would lead to exploitation of the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has promulgated the Milk and Milk Product Order on 9th June, 1992 which *inter-alia*, safeguards the interests of the farmers. This Order extends to the whole of India.

'Yellowing Disease' Attacking Coconut Cultivation in Kerala

2439. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of 'Yellowing Disease' attacking coconut cultivation in Kerala and destroying the crop ;

(b) if so, that steps Government have taken to eradicate or contain this disease ; and

(c) whether there is possibility of this disease travelling out of Kerala and spreading in the neighbouring States of Karnataka and Goa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yellowing is one of the characteristic Symptoms of the root wilt disease of coconut prevalent in some of the areas of Kerala and causes considerable damage to the crop.

(b) In the absence of a complete cure for the disease, improved management practices are recommended to contain the disease. For improving production and productivity of coconut in root wilt affected gardens in Kerala, the Coconut Development Board implemented programme on 'Integrated Farming in Coconut Small holdings in Kerala' is an area of 20,000 ha. during 1978-79 to 1991-92.

(c) Research reports have indicated the incidence of root wilt disease in the neighbouring districts of Tamil Nadu. However, no incidence is reported yet in the State of Goa.

Agricultural Land Ownership

2440. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBLAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) The classification of Agricultural land ownerships according to the latest Agricultural Census ; and

(b) The estimated number of agricultural holdings which do not employ hired labour ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The basic unit of collection of data in the Agricultural Census is the operational holding which may be dictitional the ownership holding. The operational holding is defined as land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one personnal one of others without regard to the title, legal form, size of location. The classification of operational holding on which the data are being